

PATENTS  
Attorney Docket No. BTL-703.01

**REMARKS**

By the foregoing amendments, Applicants have revised claims 1-3 to clearly indicate that these claims are directed to "caster-post-and-sleeve assembly" comprising a combination of a caster, a post and a sleeve, and have thereby overcome the Examiner's rejection of independent claim 1 and its dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have further revised claims 1-3 for greater clarity, and to correct antecedent problems. Applicants note that the "posts" recited in the preamble is used merely as a descriptive term in "platform-like objects on posts", and is not the antecedent basis for the "post" later described in the recited elements of independent claim 1 and its dependent claims.

Applicants have also revised independent claim 4 to make it clear that the claim is directed to a sleeve assembly, and to thereby overcome the Examiner's rejection of independent claim 4 and its dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. While, as indicated in the revised preamble of independent claim 4, the claimed sleeve assembly is used for supporting a caster and post used with platform-like objects, Applicants' sleeve assembly, as recited in independent claim 4, is a combination of a post-supporting sleeve and a tapered supporting sleeve. Applicants have additionally revised independent claim 4, and claims 5, and 12-15 for greater clarity and to correct the antecedent problems noted by the Examiner.

Applicants have also revised independent claim 16 to make it clear that the claim is directed to a post-supporting sleeve, and to thereby overcome the Examiner's rejection of

FHBOSTON/1148281.1

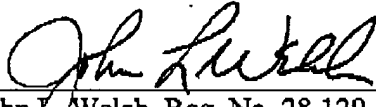
PATENTS  
Attorney Docket No. BTL-703.01

independent claim 16 and its dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. While, as indicated in the revised preamble of independent claim 16, the claimed post-supporting sleeve assembly is used for supporting a caster and post used with platform-like objects, Applicants' independent claim 16 recites features of the post-supporting sleeve. Applicants have additionally revised independent claim 16 and its dependent claim 17 to correct the antecedent problems noted by the Examiner, and to make the claims more clear.

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 18-20, and ask that the Examiner reconsider and allow claims 1-17.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 13, 2005  
*Customer No: 25181*  
Patent Group  
Foley Hoag, LLP  
155 Seaport Blvd.  
Boston, MA 02210-2600

  
John L. Welch, Reg. No. 28,129  
Attorney for Applicants  
Tel. No. (617) 832-1258  
Fax. No. (617) 832-7000

FHBOSTON/1148281.1